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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 10th, 1865.—Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs and ordered to be printed.

[By the Chair.]

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 4, 1865.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 23d ult., I herewith transmit, for your information, a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, relative to "a flour and grist mill and bakery," established by the Department, at Albany, Georgia.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Confederate States of America,
Navy Department,
Richmond, Dec. 21st, 1864.

The President:

Sir—In reply to the following resolution of the House of Representatives:

"*Resolved*, That the President of the Confederate States be requested to inform this House under and by what authority the Secretary of the Navy has contracted with Nelson Tift and others for the erection of a flouring mill in the city of Albany, Georgia; the terms of the contract, if any, under which said mill has been erected and put in operation; also, what estate, if any, the Government has acquired in the land on which said mill has been located, the extent of the same, and the amount contracted to be paid therefor"—I have the honor to state that this Department has not contracted with Nelson Tift, or others, for the erection of a flouring mill in the city of Albany, Georgia.

To supply the Navy at Mobile, Selma, Savannah and Charleston, this Department has purchased machinery and established a flour and grist mill and bakery at Albany, which is in operation under the charge of Nelson Tift, Assistant Paymaster in the Navy.

The land occupied by the mill and bakery consists of one lot, one hundred by two hundred feet; one lot, two hundred by two hundred and ten feet; one lot, one hundred by two hundred feet.

The lease, under which this property is held for the Confederate States, stipulates that no rent is to be paid for it during the war, and that after the war the property may be held, at the pleasure of the Confederate States, at a rent to be fixed by the Secretary of the Navy, or his successor in office.

I am, respectfully, your ob't servant,

S. R. MALLORY, *Sec'y Navy.*

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